

## Environmental Land Use Planning and Management

URP 6421 – Fall 2024  
Section 2749  
Thursdays 8:30-11:30am  
Antevy Hall 439 (Architecture Building)

Dr. Kathryn Frank  
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352-294-1495  
Canvas email (preferred) or [kifrank@ufl.edu](mailto:kifrank@ufl.edu)



Office hours:

Thursdays 11:30am-12:00pm and Fridays 11:00-11:30am in person or by appointment

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This course surveys environmental land use planning and management practices across the breadth of the field through six modules. Each module examines environmental concerns and policies, associated land use planning and management goals and practices, and illustrative cases. Environmental planning is an important topic for those who want to be environmental planners, generalist planners, planners in other specializations, natural resource managers, environmental policy makers, and other environmental professionals.

**Several classes, field trips, and one assignment will be combined with LAA 6382 Environmental Policy taught by Prof. Michael Volk** to relate environmental planning and policy considerations, and to bring planning and design students together.

### Modules

1. Environmental planning framework and crosscutting methods
2. Watersheds, aquifers, and wetlands
3. Landscape conservation
4. Natural hazards and climate change
5. Soils, land resources, and land use
6. Sustainable settlements

At the conclusion of this course, you should be able to

- Identify the environmental policy context of planning.
- Describe cross-cutting planning practices that apply to environmental concerns.
- Identify a wide range of environmental concerns and specific land use planning practices to address them.
- Integrate knowledge and planning responses across environmental concerns, and include social and economic interests, for sustainability.
- Conduct environmental planning with an adaptive, learning approach for resilience.

Each course module has specific learning objectives. Use these to guide your textbook reading, studying, and quiz preparation.

The required textbook is *Environmental Land Use Planning and Management, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (2011) by John Randolph, Island Press. Additional optional readings will be provided on Canvas to relate the topics to current events.

The course Canvas site will contain all assignments, including online quizzes, and grades.

This syllabus is subject to minor change with advance notice to students.

### **Class Format**

UF policy requires us to meet in person during the scheduled class times (unless you have an excused absence). Since the Covid pandemic is ongoing, vaccinations, masks, and social distancing are welcomed.

This course includes two required class field trips in and near Gainesville. Students will be responsible for their own transportation, and ride sharing is encouraged. One of the field trips will occur during regular class time. The other will occur on a Saturday morning. Accommodations can be made for scheduling conflicts with work, and for other concerns such as physical limitations.

### **Assignments and Grading**

<i>Assignment</i>	<i>Instructions (also see Canvas)</i>	<i>% of Grade</i>
<i>Attendance</i>	Class attendance, including field trips, is mandatory. Attendance will be taken throughout the semester.	20%
<i>Weekly quizzes</i>	Twelve quizzes based on the textbook readings, open-book.	24%
<i>Environmental planning meeting</i>	Attend an in-person environmental planning meeting open to the public and describe your experience in a short report.	10%
<i>Case study presentation</i>	As a small group, give a presentation of an environmental planning case and relate this to environmental policy.	20%
<i>Plan evaluation</i>	Evaluate an environmental plan using each course module.	26%

The *online quizzes are based solely on the textbook readings*. They are *due the day prior to class*. Since you will not have the benefit of class discussion of the topics prior to the quiz, email or meet with the professor if you have any questions about the readings.

The *case study and plan evaluation assignments* will apply all course content, including class sessions and additional research you conduct.

All assignments have grading rubrics that show the points for each part of the instructions. Overall, an “A” grade requires a solid understanding and application of the course topics, reflection and analysis, clear and compelling communication, proper citations and references, and timely submittal. A “B” grade is basically sound but has a deficiency in one of the areas above. A “C” or lower grade has significant deficiencies.

*Late assignments* will be marked down 10% of the total grade if they are not turned in by the deadline, and an additional 10% for each week they are late. *Missed class* and *makeup work* are allowed with acceptable, documented, and prompt reasons for absence, with communication to me as early as possible. The terms of making up missed work will be determined the professor in discussion with you. Refer to UF’s attendance policies: <https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>.

The relationship between letter grades and numeric grades is: A ( $\geq 94.0$ ), A- ( $\geq 90.0$ ), B+ ( $\geq 87.0$ ), B ( $\geq 83.0$ ), B- ( $\geq 80.0$ ), C+ ( $\geq 77.0$ ), C ( $\geq 73.0$ ), C- ( $\geq 70.0$ ), D+ ( $\geq 67.0$ ), D ( $\geq 63.0$ ), D- ( $\geq 60.0$ ), and E ( $< 60.0$ ). Where A=4.0, A-=3.67, B+=3.33, B=3.0, B-=2.67, C+=2.33, C=2.0, C-=1.67, D+=1.33, D=1.0, D-=0.67, E=0.0.

### **Accommodations for Students with Disabilities**

Students with disabilities who experience learning barriers and would like to request academic accommodations should connect with the Disability Resource Center: <https://disability.ufl.edu/get-started/>. It is important for students to share their accommodation letter with their instructor and discuss their access needs, as early as possible in the semester.

### **Academic Honesty and Avoiding Plagiarism**

UF students are bound by The Honor Pledge which states, “We, the members of the University of Florida community, pledge to hold ourselves and our peers to the highest standards of honor and integrity by abiding by the Honor Code. On all work submitted for credit by students at the University of Florida, the following pledge is either required or implied: “On my honor, I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid in doing this assignment.” The Conduct Code specifies a number of behaviors that are in violation of this code and the possible sanctions. To read the Conduct Code: <https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/process/student-conduct-code/>. If you have any questions or concerns, please consult with the instructor.

You must submit work that is *original to this course*, unless it is used as a reference and properly cited. Canvas will screen all written assignments for plagiarism using the text-matching tool Turnitin (<http://turnitin.com/static/index.html>). For guidance on avoiding plagiarism, including how to paraphrase, watch this video by the UF Writing Studio: <https://mediasite.video.ufl.edu/Mediasite/Play/27e154a024d8432aad8baa9d6f50f3d61d>.

## Use of AI

The assignments in this course are designed such that ChatGPT or other AI will not be helpful and may be counterproductive. Thus, you should not use AI for assignments in this course. If you use AI tools and do not declare this when submitting the assignment, it will be considered plagiarism.

## Course/Instructor Evaluations

Students are expected to provide professional and respectful feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing course evaluations online via GatorEvals. Guidance on how to give feedback in a professional and respectful manner is available at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/students/>. Students will be notified when the evaluation period opens, and can complete evaluations through the email they receive from GatorEvals, in their Canvas course menu under GatorEvals, or via <https://bluera.com/ufl/>. Summaries of course evaluation results are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/public-results/>.

## Getting Help

### Health and Wellness

*U Matter, We Care:* If you or someone you know is in distress, please contact [umatter@ufl.edu](mailto:umatter@ufl.edu), 352-392-1575, or visit U Matter, We Care website to refer or report a concern and a team member will reach out to the student in distress.

*Counseling and Wellness Center:* Visit the Counseling and Wellness Center website or call 352-392-1575 for information on crisis services as well as non-crisis services.

*Student Health Care Center:* Call 352-392-1161 for 24/7 information to help you find the care you need, or visit the Student Health Care Center website.

*University Police Department:* Visit UF Police Department website or call 352-392-1111 (or 9-1-1 for emergencies).

*UF Health Shands Emergency Room / Trauma Center:* For immediate medical care call 352-733-0111 or go to the emergency room at 1515 SW Archer Road, Gainesville, FL 32608; Visit the UF Health Emergency Room and Trauma Center website.

### Academic Resources

*E-learning technical support:* Contact the UF Computing Help Desk at 352-392-4357 or via e-mail at [helpdesk@ufl.edu](mailto:helpdesk@ufl.edu).

*Career Connections Center:* Reitz Union Suite 1300, 352-392-1601. Career assistance and counseling services.

*Library Support:* Various ways to receive assistance with respect to using the libraries or finding resources.

*Teaching Center:* Broward Hall, 352-392-2010 or to make an appointment 352-392-6420. General study skills and tutoring.

*Writing Studio:* 2215 Turlington Hall, 352-846-1138. Help brainstorming, formatting, and writing papers.

*Student Complaints:* Visit the Student Honor Code and Student Conduct Code webpage for more information.

### **About Professor Frank**

Dr. Frank specializes in planning and engagement for sustainability, resilience, and social equity. Specific areas include sea level rise adaptation, ecosystem and watershed management, regional planning, rural planning, collaborative planning, neighborhood planning, and youth participation. She is the director of the Florida Center for Innovative Communities, which focuses on action research to design and pilot test new community engagement processes. She previously worked as a planning consultant and environmental engineer. She has a doctorate in City and Regional Planning from Georgia Tech and a master's degree in Community and Regional Planning from the University of Oregon. Her undergraduate majors were chemical engineering and mathematics.

**SCHEDULE**

<b>Class Date</b>	<b>Topics (with Policy class in parentheses)</b>	<b>Reading Due</b>	<b>Assignment due Wed (unless note)</b>
<b>Module 1 – Environmental Planning Framework and Crosscutting Methods</b>			
Week 1 8/22	Course overview and class introductions		
Week 2 8/29	Intro to environmental planning, part 1 Intro to environmental policy (Volk 10:00)	Ch. 1-3	Quiz 1 Start env pln mtg
Week 3 9/5	Collaboration Intro environmental planning, part 2 (Frank 10:00)	Ch. 4-5	Quiz 2
<b>Module 2 – Watersheds, Aquifers, and Wetlands</b>			
Week 4 9/12	Geographic information systems Watersheds and surface water (Volk 10:00)	Ch. 7 (not append), 8	Quiz 3
Week 5 9/19	Aquifers and wetlands (Frank 8:30) Water supply planning	Ch. 9, 10 (342-363)	Quiz 4
9/21 Sat 9a-12p	Field trip: Sweetwater Branch Watershed		
<b>Module 3 – Landscape Conservation</b>			
Week 6 9/26	Species and land conservation Guest speakers: ACT & PCCC (10:00)	Ch. 10 (317- 328), 11	Quiz 5
Week 7 10/3	Case study kickoff (8:30) Guest speaker: Dr. Thomas Hoctor (10:00)	Ch. 15	Quiz 6 Start case study
<b>Module 4 – Natural Hazards and Climate Change</b>			
Week 8 10/10	Natural hazards	Ch. 13	Quiz 7
Week 9 10/17	Climate change Soils, erosion, agricultural practices	Ch. 12	Quiz 8 Env pln mtg (Sun)

**Module 5 – Land Resources**

Week 10	<b>Field trip: Alachua Conservation Trust</b>	Ch. 6	Quiz 9
10/24			

Week 11	Integrated land use planning	Ch. 14	Quiz 10
10/31	Group work (10:00)		

**Module 6 – Sustainable Settlements**

Week 12	NO CLASS (Prof. at conference)	Ch. 16, 17	Quiz 11
11/7	Sustainable cities, part 1 (recorded)		

Week 13	Sustainable cities, part 2		Case study present
11/14	Growth management and regional planning, part 1 Case study presentations (10:00)		

Week 14	Growth management and regional planning, part 2	Ch. 18	Quiz 12
11/21	Adaptive ecosystem management Course review Case study presentations (10:00)		Start plan eval

Week 15	<i>No class - Thanksgiving holidays</i>		
11/28			

Week 16	No class (reading day)		
12/5			

Week 17	Finals week		Plan evaluation
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